

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-16

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EUR-25 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

SS-20 USIA-15 SCCT-02 SAM-01 SAJ-01 IO-14 DRC-01 /136 W

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R 211430Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6407

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E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR CY

SUBJ: AHARAM EDITORIAL COMMENT ON ASSASSINATION  
OF AMBASSADOR DAVIES

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

01. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF AL-AHRAM MAIN EDITORIAL

AUG 21 DEALING WITH ASSASSINATION OF AMBASSADOR  
DAVIES:

2. QUOTE. THE MURDER OF THE AMERICAN AMBASSADOR IN  
CYPRUS IS A SIGNIFICANT EVENT. IT CANNOT BE ATTRIBUTED  
MERELY TO IRRESPONSIBLE GROUPS OF EOKA DEMONSTRATORS..  
IT IS AN EXPRESSION OF INFLAMED, EXPLOSIVE FEELINGS.; IT  
REFLECTS THE FAILURE UNTIL NOW TO FIND A SATISFACTORY SOLUTION

TO THE CRISIS. IT SHOWS THE FEELING OF AN  
OUTSTANDING SEGMENT OF THE CYPRIOT PEOPLE AS REGARDS  
THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE CONTINUOUS  
DETERIORATION OF THE SITUATION.

3. EGYPT CANNOT VIEW THE STEADILY DETERIORATING CYPRIOT  
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CRISIS AS THOUGH IT WERE SEPARATE FROM THE CURRENT EFFORTS TO SOLVE THE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS. THE UNITED STATES EFFORTS TO RESTORE PEACE TO THE AREA ARE INDIVISIBLE. THEY NECESSITATE A CERTAIN CONDUCT WHICH ALL PARTIES ACCEPT AND RECOGNIZE AS EFFORTS THAT REALLY SEEK TO ACHIEVE THE DECLARED INTENTIONS.

4. EGYPT CONDEMS TERRORIST ACTS BUT IT CANNOT IGNORE THE MOTIVES BEHIND THEM. IT BELIEVES THAT SINCERE EFFORTS FOR A SETTLEMENT THAT WOULD FULFILL THE LEGITIMATE ASPIRATIONS OF ALL PARTIES TO THE DISPUTE ARE THE ONLY WAY TO UPROOT THE CAUSES OF TERRORISM. UNQUOTE

5. BEGIN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE:

COMMENT: ABOVE EDITORIAL, WHICH CONTRASTS SHARPLY WITH OFFICIAL EGYPTIAN EXPRESSIONS OF CONDOLENCE TO US ON AMBASSADOR DAVIES' DEATH, REFLECTS TWO EGYPTIAN LINES OF THOUGHT, WHICH HAVE OF LATE INCREASINGLY SURFACED IN PRIVATE CONVERSATION. FIRST, A DEEPLY HELD CONVICTION THAT USG SHOULD DO MORE TO HALT CYPRUS FIGHTING. EGYPTIANS, AS FELLOW MUSLIMS, ARE RELUCTANT TO TACKLE TURKS DIRECTLY ON THIS AND HABITUALLY PREFER BURDEN AND BLAME TO BE CARRIED BY OTHERS. SECOND, A LATENT IMPATIENCE WITH THE SLOW PACE OF ARAB-ISRAELI SETTLEMENT TALKS AND A NAGGING CONCERN THAT USG COVERTLY ENDORSES ISRAELI MILITANCY. THESE SENTIMENTS HAVE LONG BEEN HARBORED BY LEFT-WING INTELLECTUALS OF AL-AHRAM ESTABLISHMENT, BUT HAVE BEEN PUBLICLY MUTED SINCE HAYKAL'S DEPARTURE AND REORGANIZATION OF AHRAM MANAGEMENT. THESE ELEMENTS APPEAR TO HAVE SEIZED UPON CYPRUS INCIDENT TO VENT THEIR CONCERNS. ALTHOUGH VOLUNTARY CONSORTSHIP IS NOW THE RULE, WE CAN HARDLY BELIEVE THAT THE ABOVE EDITORIAL WAS PUBLISHED WITHOUT AT LEAST TACIT CONCURRENCE OF MININFO. ABDUL MAGD, AS AN OBLIQUE REMAINDER THAT EGYPTIANS WANT USG TO TAKE PRINCIPAL ROLE IN ANY AND ALL PEACE EFFORTS.

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## Message Attributes

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